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Message Text

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44
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OIC-04 AGR-20 AID-20 EB-11

RSC-01 COME-00 OMB-01 TAR-02 SPC-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-11 DRC-01 /180 W
---------- 058293
R 230900Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2865
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USEC BRUSSELS 4706

UNCLAS ROME 0982

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FAO, UNCTAD, EAGR, ETRD
SUBJ: SPECIAL AD HOC CONSULTATIONS ON CITRUS

REF: ROME 773

/SUMMARY/. SPECIAL AD HOC FAO/UNCTAD CONSULTATIONS ON CITRUS CONCLUDED JANUARY 21, TWO DAYS LATER THAN PLANNED. RESULT OF MEETING WAS INCONCLUSIVE. PRESSURES BY LDCS, LED BY FAO PERM REPS FROM EGYPT AND ARGENTINA, WERE STRONGER FOR COMMITMENTS BY THE GROUP ON THE LIST OF MEASURES ADOPTED THAN IN SESSION ON RICE, BUT WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. THERE WAS NO PRESSURE FOR AN ADDITIONAL MEETING OF THE AD HOC GROUP. /END SUMMARY/.

1. REASON FOR EXTENDED LENGTH OF MEETING WAS POOR PREPARATION BY FAO SECRETARIAT AND POOR LEADERSHIP BY GROUP CHAIRMAN IN PREPARING FOR INEVITABLE DEBATE ON THE ISSUE OF WHETHER THE GROUP SHOULD ADOPT CONCLUSIONS ON TRADE AND OTHER MEASURES FOR CITRUS. LDCS, PARTLY BASED ON WHAT THEY TERMED THEIR UNHAPPY EXPERIENCE WITH REPORT ADOPTED BY RICE GROUP EARLIER IN WEEK, PRESSED HARD FOR AGREEMENT OF GROUP ON SUCH MEASURES TO GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. WORDING OF FINAL TEXT OF REPORT
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ON THIS ISSUE, HOWEVER, IS QUOTE THE MEETING RECOMMENDED THAT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE THE FOLLOWING MEASURES BE CONSIDERED THOROUGHLY

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BY INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING THE POINTS THAT DIRECTLY CONCERN THEM AS WELL AS IN THE APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL ERA. UNQUOTE. LIST OF MEASURES THEN FOLLOWS. AT CLOSE OF MEETING, SOME LDC DELS SUGGESTED FUTURE AD HOC GROUPS MUST GO FARTHER THAN THIS AND THAT UPCOMING SESSION ON OILSEEDS MAY PRESENT OPPORTUNITY. U.S. DEL SAID THAT GROUPS SHOULD NOT ARGUE OUT THIS CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE AT EVERY ONE OF THEIR SESSIONS, AND THAT WE SHOULD USE LANGUAGE ADOPTED BY RICE AND CITRUS GROUP AS BASIS FOR FUTURE REPORTS OF AD HOC INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS.

2. OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING WERE:
(A) CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE BY LDCS ON SOVIET UNION AND OTHER EAST BLOC COUNTRIES TO LIBERALIZE THEIR RESTRICTIONS ON CITRUS IMPORTS;
(B) EXCHANGE BETWEEN U.S. AND E.C. ON ISSUE OF EC SPECIALIZED PREFERENCES, WITH US DEL GIVING POSITION CONTAINED IN PARAS 2 AND 3 OF PAGE 2 OF POSITION PAPER ON SECTION IV OF AGENDA, AND INCLUSION OF BOTH EC AND US VIEWS IN FINAL REPORT; AND
(C) ATTENDANCE OF DELS FROM USSR AND GDR FOR FIRST TIME AT FAO COMMODITY MEETINGS, ALTHOUGH USSR DEL TOLD US HE THERE IN HIS CAPACITY AS UNCTAD MEMBER, SINCE UNCTAD CO-SPONSOR OF MEETING. NEITHER SPOKE AT MEETING.VOLPE

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